

Kansas State Collegian

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Tomorrow:
High: 85 F
Low: 62 F



Wednesday:
High: 86 F
Low: 58 F

GFS

monday, april 23, 2012

vol. 117 | no. 140

For more on the NASCAR experience, see page 4

03

Results are in
After reading last week's poll results, go online to tell us how you feel about e-books.

A new monopoly
Is Amazon becoming the Walmart of the Internet? See today's opinion page.

04

KU gets put away
The women's tennis team defeated the Jayhawks this weekend to end the season.

Students use silence to protest bullying

Demonstrators tape mouths shut to raise awareness of harassment of LGBT community

Laura Dold
contributing writer

Editor's Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

Whether it is for a moment or for a day, silence can be instrumental in contemplation, prayer or reflection about someone or something.

On April 20, a group of people participated in a day of silence to raise awareness for the bullying that the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community faces.

The National Day of Silence was supported by members of LGBT and Allies, an organization that focuses on the LGBT community. Several other K-State organizations also had student participants who showed support by duct-taping their mouths.

Simone Dorsey, vice president of LGBT and Allies and senior in family studies and human services, said LGBT is an acronym inclusive of all sexual orientations represented in today's society that are not heterosexual.

"If I were to write them all down, it would look more like LBGTQIAAGG ... we call it the alphabet soup, so we just use LGBT for short," Dorsey said.

The students wearing duct tape, or any type of material over their mouths, indicated that they were not speaking to bring attention to anti-LGBT name calling, bullying and harassment.

Dorsey said she was a follower of this National Day of Silence to bring attention to the silence faced by LGBT individuals and others in this community, including heterosexual allies.

"My silence echoes their silence that is caused by anti-gay harassment, slurs and discrimination," she said.

Some students said they were unaware of the National Day of Silence. Madilyn Drake, sophomore in hotel and restaurant management, said that even though she knew that the duct tape symbolized something significant, she wasn't sure how to find out what it was for, since nobody could talk.

"I had no idea what was going on," Drake said. "It's obviously representing something important, but I couldn't ask them about it considering they had tape over their mouths."

The main objective for the National Day of Silence was to make schools safer for students regardless of their sexual orientation and gender identity, Dorsey said.

She also said she hoped that students learning about this will want to get involved to help with the fight to stop the injustice on all campuses in the United States.

"I think it is great that people on campus are standing up for what they believe in and want to try to make a difference," said Shelby Houser, junior in apparel marketing. "It got my attention."

Dorsey said that although stopping the harassment of the LGBT community will take a long time, it is important to look at the big picture.

"It's a big dream to want the bullying to stop, and I probably will never see this come to fruition before I die," Dorsey said. "But if your dream can be carried out in one lifetime, it's not big enough."

Open House displays K-State campus, groups, research to potential students

Students groups use variety of tactics to attract visitors, including poetry and cow skull

Austin Enns
staff writer

Hundreds of parents, students and prospective students roamed the K-State campus Saturday during Open House.

Events ranged from the K-State band's musical petting zoo at the All Faiths Chapel to the business school's Bouncy Castle outside Calvin Hall to performances in Bosco Student Plaza by the band Catching Amy and a dance group. The weekend also showcased On The Spot, a K-State improvisational comedy group.

Cassie Smith, entertainment co-chair for the Union Program Council and senior in life sciences, was part of UPC's booth in Bosco Student Plaza.

"We wanted to go along with the theme of social networking," Smith said. "We figured Angry Birds would attract a lot of people. It's a big age range too; there's little kids and also some older adults."

Children shot balls from a water balloon slingshot held by two UPC members, at buckets stacked in a pyramid formation with Angry Bird images taped to the buckets.

"It's been fun," Smith said. "Surprisingly, this is the first Open House I've been to, but it's been a blast, and it's been fun to see potential students and parents out here."

Many spectators gathered in Bosco Student Plaza to watch the performing groups and browse different booths. The Horticulture Club sold small plants including flowers, tomatoes and peppers. Students offered campus tours and Willie the Wildcat even made an appearance to high-five potential students.

Inside the Union, a mix of campus groups set up booths, including greek houses, language departments and leadership organizations.

Erica Stones, graduate student in French, was working a booth for the modern languages program and said she volunteered to help promote her program.

"It's been good. There's a lot of people, and they're interested in foreign languages," Stones said. "It's cool; you get to meet people of all ages."

Groups used a variety of methods to attract visitors; some offered quizzes, the women's studies department offered pictures for people to color and the veterinary medicine department displayed



Kelsey Castanon | Collegian

Members of On The Spot, K-State's improv comedy club, perform in Bosco Student Plaza during Open House on Saturday.

a painted cow skull.

Brian Moore, student life exhibit coordinator on the Open House committee and sophomore in agricultural economics, said Open House went smoothly.

"It was more of coordinating and planning and the Union staff did a great job of making the layout happen," Moore said. "Everyone does a little bit here and there, and it just pulls together."

The coolest thing is just how K-State is a community where people do their part to make this happen."

The English department gave free books to students after taking an online quiz and handed out poems printed on slips of paper. The department's "Poet in a Box" activity encouraged participants to submit a topic, then members of the

OPEN | pg. 6

Marijuana advocates argue for economic benefit



Students gather in the Quad to advocate the decriminalization of marijuana shortly after noon on April 20, asserting that smoking marijuana should not be a crime. From left to right: Phil Cunningham, 2011 graduate of K-State, Fred Lindsey, freshman in economics, Nick Wiber, sophomore in agriculture technology management, Jamie Michel, graduate student in architecture, and Rachel Burgess, senior in history and anthropology. "A lot of people will pass by us and think we are just a bunch of stoners," Wiber said. "But there are thousands of nonviolent offenders locked up in the prison system right now ... if weed were legalized, there would be a broader tax base for the United States economy."

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Drew Martens @drewzer123 20h
Dear older gentleman running on campus, please either wear running shorts that cover the necessary parts, or run at night. #theforum

kelly peterson @BooglegKelly 7h
Anybody else ready for the Zombie Outbreak. I know I am. #TheFourum

chandler gechter @GECHTER 22h
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Fighting Frogs @FightingFrogs 1d
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Casey @Habrnoro 23h
Ahh, another ridiculously liberal comic in Logan's Run. She's knows this isn't KU, right? #TheFourum

Evan Yule @EvanYule 1d
Saw Bruce Webber on campus, his hair looked fantastic! He's got my trust #TheFourum

opinion

monday, april 23, 2012

kansas state collegian

page 3

Video games qualify as art by critics' own criteria



Patrick White

Last month, the Smithsonian started up a new exhibit called "The Art of Video Games," prompting another round of the long-running argument about whether video games can be considered an art form.

In 2010, film critic Roger Ebert pointed out in his blog that "one obvious difference between art and games is that you can win a game."

Movie director Steven Spielberg took a somewhat different approach when he said, "I will accept video games as a storytelling medium when someone can honestly say, 'I cried at level 17.'"

Ebert's opinion reminds me of two similar arguments. In one, people argue that golf is not a sport because it is not athletic, and in the other, people complain that art is either easy or pointless when someone can become famous from painting colored rectangles.

But this type of argument doesn't consider the entire picture. The definition of sports isn't restricted to pure athleticism; it also involves dedication, practice and theory. Also, ask any art major how much they enjoy Piet Mondrian's "Composition with Yellow, Blue and Red" or other examples of neoplasticism, and you won't just hear about art because talking about neoplasticism requires a

ART | pg.6

Amazon approaches Walmart-style monopoly



Brian Hampel

Most people who shop at Walmart are at least a little bit aware that Walmart often flirts with evil. The long list of accusations includes all the big business classics, like predatory pricing, union busting, destroying small businesses and getting a discrimination lawsuit thrown out by the Supreme Court.

Walmart's sheer enormity helps it keep prices down and competition at bay, and the correspondingly huge revenue stream brings added power and influence, which are not always used for good. There is another Walmart out there, though, in the world of online retail: Amazon.com.

We all know that Amazon is huge. Even though it primarily identifies as a bookseller, Amazon sells a bit of everything, not unlike Walmart. It is already the largest online retailer in the world, and there have even been predictions that Amazon's sales and profits on everything but groceries will catch up with Walmart by 2017. Having that much capital to work with can give a company many business advantages that flirt with the monopolistic.

Since it has such a huge market share for books (and especially for e-books, thanks to the Kindle platform), Amazon has a lot of power over the book-based economy, and it is in a unique position to wrestle and bargain with publishers.

When e-book negotiations with the Macmillan Publishers were going badly, Amazon pulled all Macmillan books from its online shelves, cutting into their sales and reminding them how devastating it would be to lose favor with a huge source of income like Amazon.

Another dispute with Penguin Books over e-book prices pushed Penguin to stop providing its e-books to Amazon, and in response, Amazon temporarily sold Penguin hardcovers at the cut-rate price of \$9.99 apiece. Luckily for us, Amazon twisted some

arms for the consumers' benefit (as well as its own benefit, of course), using its leverage to lower the artificially and unreasonably high prices of e-books, but the fact that a company wields such leverage at all should be cause for concern.

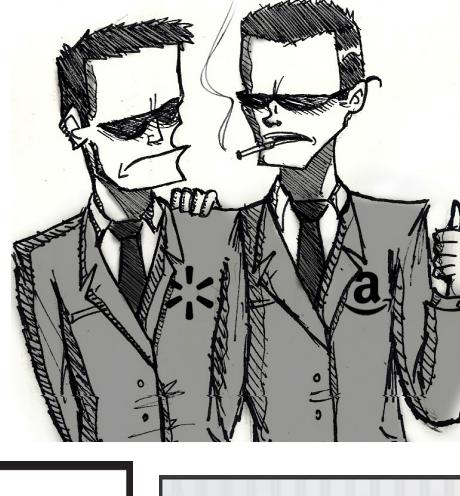
Publishers are between a rock and a hard place. They fear Amazon's power, but they're also dependent on its market share. Amazon's leverage also offers another major hurdle to potential competing start-ups in the e-book market, since they wouldn't be able to compete with Amazon's prices if they don't have its negotiating power.

The accusations also extend to predatory pricing, selling products at extremely low prices, even at a loss, to undercut competitors and drive them out of business.

Amazon's Kindle platform has been the target of this criticism since 2007, when it started slashing prices on both Kindles and e-books to encourage sales — the "investment phase" of the Kindle. The early start on the e-book reader market gave Amazon a good burst of momentum, and now it controls the lions share of the e-book market.

The research firm iSuppli has actually calculated in a preliminary teardown that the materials and manufacturing costs of the Kindle Fire cost slightly more than the Fire's \$200 pricetag, meaning that Amazon is selling each unit at a loss. The company is able to do so because the Kindle Fire isn't a one-time pur-

DON'T WORRY, I GOT THIS.



chase for most customers. The profit from Kindle Fire comes from the sale of content — e-books, movies, apps and the like — all of which are provided by Amazon and Amazon alone.

In short, the Kindle Fire doesn't make Amazon any money per se, but it captures more market share for the online giant. When Amazon is already positioned to have over 50 percent of the market share for books by the end of the year, the new Kindle is more fuel for the fire.

We ought to be wary about supporting a potential monopoly. Amazon's influence and market share are already a little too impressive. We were all taught in school that John Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie were able to do a lot of nasty things to their competitors in the oil and steel markets, and Amazon's pressure on publishers could be a hint at similarly unscrupulous business tactics in the future.

The fact that it's big doesn't make Amazon evil, but all companies need competition to keep them honest. The allure of Amazon's low prices, prime accounts and free shipping is enticing, but perhaps we should support some smaller, independent sellers from time to time, just to make sure we're not putting all our eggs in one basket.

Brian Hampel is a junior in architecture. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

This week's question:

Do you think e-books are more beneficial than print textbooks? What do you think about teachers using e-books in comparison to print textbooks?

1 I like them because they are cheaper and easier to use

2 Regular textbooks are easier to keep track of

3 I prefer print textbooks because electronics are not reliable enough

4 I do not care either way

Last week's results:

Since the tornadoes missed Manhattan on Apr. 15, does that change your attitude toward future storms?

1 No, I am invincible 40% (34)

2 I will be more cautious, but I am not too worried 49% (41)

3 Yes, I am building an underground panic room 11% (9)

Total number of votes: 84

To cast your vote, head online to kstatecollegian.com.



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The K-State Alumni Association proudly announces the winners of the 2012 Graduate Student Awards.

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Sat	Earth in Action GEOI 100 11749 5:30-7:55 p.m.	Earth Through Time GEOI 102 11738 5:30-7:55 p.m.	Intro to Microcomputer Word Processing Applications CIS 104 11209 5:30-7:55 p.m. TU 8:30-10:30 a.m. Sat. July 17-28

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Arabic II ARAB 182	Intro to Microcomputer Spreadsheet Applications CIS 102	The Short Story ENGL 253	Plane Trigonometry MATH 150
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Art Careers Seminar ART 105	Intro to Microcomputer Word Processing Applications CIS 104	Capstone Experience in Family Studies and Human Services FSHS 590	Global Security Threats POLSC 540
Drawing I ART 190	Public Speaking I COMM 106	Earth in Action GEOI 100	General Psychology PSYCH 110
3-Dimensional Design ART 200	Public Speaking II COMM 321	Earth through Time GEOI 102	Intro to Sociology SOCIO 211
Drawing II ART 210	Principles of Macroeconomics ECON 110	Geology Laboratory GEOI 103	Global Problems SOCIO 363
Water Media I ART 220	Principles of Microeconomics ECON 120	Intro to Gerontology GERON 315	Social Organization SOCIO 440
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KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Division of Continuing Education

monday, april 23, 2012

kansas state collegian

SOCER

33rd memorial tourney honors alumnus, Fort Riley soldiers

Marisa Love
staff writer

Purple, red and camouflage filled K-State's Memorial Stadium on Friday evening as club soccer players from K-State and University of Kansas filed up into the stands to shake the hands of nearly 100 Fort Riley soldiers. Fort Riley's 1st Infantry Division cheered on the student athletes during the opening games of the 33rd Annual KSU-Ed Chartrand Soccer Tournament.

Teams who did well during pool play on Friday and Saturday advanced to semi-final and championship games on Sunday.

Creighton University's women took home the women's championship Sunday afternoon after a tight match against K-State, winning on the sixth penalty kick after regulation play. On the men's side, the University of Oklahoma beat the University of Kansas 1-0 during their championship game on Sunday.

The club soccer tournament is held annually in memory of Ed "Fast Eddy" Chartrand, a former K-State soccer player who died suddenly just hours after his graduation from K-State in 1979. K-State alumni Dennis Cook and Art Chartrand, Ed's brother, organized and played in the first tournament and have worked every year to continue the tournament in honor of a brother and a teammate.

"To us ... it means family — having people like Dennis Cook, who's been with us for 33 years," Chartrand said. "Dennis and I played out on this very field. It means getting together with these young players. We've had fathers and sons and daughters, everybody play in this tournament over 33 years."

A partnership formed this year between Fort Riley and K-State's soccer club added a new dynamic to the tournament. A team from Fort Riley played in the first Ed Chartrand Soccer Tournament in the fall of 1979.

"It's a new partnership after 33 years to bring the men and women in the military back to join us, to be a part of our family too," Chartrand said.

Besides K-State and KU, Southern Illinois, Saint Louis University, Pittsburg State, Creighton University, Oklahoma, Truman

State and Emporia State also played.

One of the K-State women's team co-presidents, Katie Brophy, sophomore in biology and pre-med, helped organize the tournament.

"It's just like a really fun get-together for everyone because we play these teams one-on-one throughout the season and we travel there and they come here, but it's really fun to get them all together at one time," Brophy said.

The Chartrand Charitable Foundation and private donors primarily fund the tournament and its scholarship program, from which one member each from the K-State men's and women's soccer teams are awarded a \$500 scholarship each year. Elissa Post, senior in education, and Sam Evans, senior in life sciences and pre-med, received scholarships this year after being nominated by their teammates because of their dedication to K-State club soccer.

The K-State soccer teams invited players from all the visiting teams to join them for a social Saturday evening at Kite's Grille and Bar. Players from different teams spent time in a more relaxed setting than normal and also recognized this year's scholarship winners.

"It was awesome. We had a lot of people show up. It was great to get to know the people off the field a little bit, when there's not so much at stake," Brophy said.

K-State currently has two men's teams and one women's team that are open to any students who want to join.

"I came from a nice high school team, but I knew that I wanted to be a doctor and I knew I was going to need to focus on school," Brophy said. "So I decided I probably couldn't play on a real college team, so I went for a club team, and it's been a really nice balance."

Richie Martell, junior in advertising and co-president of the men's team, joined the K-State men's club soccer team after transferring from MidAmerica Nazarene University, where he played on the school's team.

"It's still competitive and that's what we like about it," Martell said. "It's not like intramurals you go out there and have fun, but it's not that competitive. With us, obviously no one likes to lose to KU, so we go out there and play hard."

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Small fruit, big pride



Simone Dorsey, senior in family studies and human services and vice president of LGBT and Allies, rallies at the Little Apple Pride Parade and Celebration in Triangle Park on Saturday. The parade started at Town Center Mall downtown and made its way through Aggierville.

Kelsey Castanon | Collegian

Developing Scholars showcases undergraduate student research

Topics include rodent stem cells, Ugly Betty TV show

Austin Enns
staff writer

Research projects with titles like "Parenting a Child with Down Syndrome," "Data Fusion Algorithm for Mapping Crime" and "Water and Food: The Effects of the Decrease in Water Supplies on Agriculture" were on display in the K-State Student Union Ballroom on Sunday afternoon as part of the Developing Scholars Program at K-State.

Dozens of students set up displays and explained their research to visitors circling the room.

Phouc Bui, senior in microbiology, presented a project entitled "A Focused Microarray for Screening Rat Embryonic Stem Cell Lines." He said the display helped him understand his research better.

"The more I explain it, the better I understand it, because if you can't explain it, you don't know it," Bui said. "And it's nice to explain the research and get the word out."

April Mason, university provost, attended the program and engaged the students at several exhibits.

"I'll be giving awards and recognizing developing scholars and mentors who have been working with them," Mason said. "We're very proud of them, and it's a great culminating experience to see what the students have been working on."

Many of the topics were

science-intensive, but other research was focused on less technical fields, with titles like "What Makes a Successful Logo."

Anita Cortez, administrative director of the Developing Scholars Program, said 157 students who participated in the program have graduated so far. She said it grants many prospects to the current group of 70.

"It's allowing students to come in as freshman and have the opportunity to do research with a professor who may be a world renowned scientist."

Anita Cortez
administrative director of
the Developing Scholars
Program

students.

"The world ... is allowing students to come in as freshmen and have the opportunity to do research with a professor who may be a world-renowned scientist," Cortez said. "And it literally opens the world to the students; they learn how to think and how to question."

Cortez said the program looked for applicants who are academically capable.

"We focus on underrepresented students in this program, students of color or first-generation college students," Cortez said.

Visitors browsing the variety of posters paused for an awards ceremony in which students and

faculty received recognition for scholarships, internships and awards.

At the beginning of the program, students greeted the audience in different languages, including Japanese, Vietnamese, Spanish, French, German and Chinese.

Michelle Foster, junior in political science and American ethnic studies, received an award for maintaining a 4.0 grade point average.

"I feel very happy that my work is appreciated; it's not easy getting a 4.0," Foster said. "I'm happy the Developing Scholars recognized my hard work and the hard work of others."

Her topic was entitled "Ugly Betty's Immigration Narrative: The Personal and the Political." She said she spent three years working on the project.

Foster said in the first year, she focused on Latino men and masculine sexuality. In the second, she researched the immigration debate and citizenship for children, and this year, she analyzed the television show *Ugly Betty*, which is now over, and examined the portrayal of the title character's father, Ignacio.

Foster said she looked at stereotypes of him from before and after his deportation on the show and what it means to be an illegal immigrant.

James Craven, junior in horticultural science, said he found the topics very interesting.

"I just decided to drop in and see what's going on," Craven said. "My roommate's in the program. It's pretty good; there's some good research."

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OPEN English booth hands out 100 poems

Continued from page 1

English department wrote a poem about it. On the topic of the Collegian, the "poet in the box" wrote, "I am a special poet inspired by a muse, who has come here to tell you the K-State Collegian has the best news."

Karin Westman, head of the English department and associate professor of English, said the booth had given away over 75 books and had written 100 poems.

Mitchell Widener, senior in English and history and volunteer for English department's table, said the booth was entertaining.

"It's a carnival environment, and it's a great day to show off K-State," Widener said. "The weather's spectacular, too."

Student groups represented K-State all across campus. Hale Library participated in the festivities with a book sale, offering hundreds of books ranging from "Robinson Crusoe" to "The Oxford Anthology of English Literature: Volume II." The Quad had signs that directed Open House participants to visit various halls with slogans like "Picture yourself at K-State," while children played the drums set up outside of McCain Auditorium and Fairchild Hall.

Paul Elmore, graduate student in architecture, displayed his master's project outside of Seaton Hall. He and his partners used bamboo supports with fiberglass connections to support a plywood and two-by-four floor.

Adventurous visitors could climb on top and experience the floor's durability under supervision. Elmore explained the structure, which could hold around 5,000 pounds, was intended to help people in Honduras build strong houses.

Jacob Wren, senior at Junction City High School, attended Open House to view the architecture department in Seaton Hall said he really enjoyed the festivities.

"It's pretty cool; this is like my second time," Wren said. "I think this is a cool place. It's a big building."

ART Games have moral, emotional content

Continued from page 3

history lesson.

To return to Ebert, from his point of view, games are not art because you can win games. So, art is art because the viewer can only lose? I don't think that is the case. Art you can win can be called a game.

For instance, before jumping to video games, let's examine a low-tech game like Monopoly. Parents like this game because players have to hand count and budget the start-up money. Players cannot buy every street they land on because they would soon go bankrupt from the effort.

The game is a tiny world of math, money, budgeting and profit, and since this is the traditional premise of the game, it angered some that the new version comes with a credit card. Adding in the possibility of credit card debt changes the whole feel of the game. My point in mentioning this is that the game taught responsibility; it had a moral.

Now, if games teach a moral, then how are they different from books, yet another form of art? The moral can be played out on a board game with pieces and rules, or it can be told in a story, where the hero acts in a certain way or the author evokes examples from common experience.

If a board game is capable of communicating a moral, surely video games can do the same. The only difference between the media is that games give the protagonist a face, and, in video games as opposed to books, the player controls how the protagonist walks across the screen.

This brings me to Spielberg's point. His point of view could be seen as giving the gaming industry a hoop to jump through. If video games can make a player cry, then they get into the exclusive art club — not to cry out in rage or frustration because the game is too difficult, just move the player to tears.

This may be a shock to some, but this has already happened. Since its release on Jan. 31, 1997, Final Fantasy VII had many gamers' hearts breaking. As one blog poster for tvtropes.org stated on the game's Tear Jerker page, it was not the initial shock of the main character's girlfriend dying, it was the sad score for the boss fight and how long the fight lasted that really hit hard.

Video games have continued what regular games started before them, a set of conditions to be completed to arrive at the moral the game centers upon. And since the technology has expanded from games like Pong to games with stories revolving around the gameplay mechanic, they have not only been able to become teaching tools, but emotionally powerful as well.

Patrick White is a junior in journalism and mass communications. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

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